



NEWS RELEASE

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Serial Killer Sentenced to Three Consecutive Life Terms

A 74-year-old defendant convicted of murdering three women in the late 1980s was sentenced today to three consecutive life without the possibility of parole prison terms, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Samuel Little, 74, was sentenced to the maximum by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge George Lomeli immediately after several family members of the victims addressed the court.

Deputy District Attorney Beth Silverman with the Major Crimes Division prosecuted the case.

A jury on Sept. 2 found Little guilty of the first-degree murders of Carol Alford, 41, on or about July 13, 1987; Audrey Nelson, 35, on or about Aug. 14, 1989; and Guadalupe Apodaca, 46, on or about Sept. 3, 1989. The jury also found true the special circumstance of multiple murders.

"During the trial, I was there for the coroner's presentation about my sister and those images will be etched in my mind forever," Sherri Nelson said of her sister, Audrey Nelson. "I loved my sister dearly, and she did not deserve to have her life taken like this."

The Los Angeles Police Department's Robbery-Homicide Division, which investigated the case, was notified in April 2012 that a DNA match was obtained identifying Little as the suspect in Nelson's murder. DNA matches also came back on the other two victims tying Little to their murders. All three victims were strangled to death.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](http://da.lacounty.gov) prosecuted more than 73,000 felony defendants and 113,000 misdemeanor defendants.